

Winfrey, Joseph

From: Kaushal Gupta <Gupta.Kaushal@epamail.epa.gov> on behalf of Group R5Foia <R5Foia@epamail.epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 9:26 AM
To: Winfrey, Joseph
Subject: Fw: Expedited FOIA request from Chicago Tribune for Section 114 test summaries
Attachments: List of 114 requests for followup with Region 5.xlsx

----- Forwarded by Kaushal Gupta/R5/USEPA/US on 01/03/2018 09:26 AM -----

From: Eric Cederholm/R5/USEPA/US@MSO365
To: Group R5Foia/R5/USEPA/US@EPA,
Date: 01/02/2018 11:11 AM
Subject: FW: Expedited FOIA request from Chicago Tribune for Section 114 test summaries

Please create a new FOIA from the email below:

From: Hawthorne, Michael [<mailto:mhawthorne@chicagotribune.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 1:11 PM
To: Cederholm, Eric <cederholm.eric@epa.gov>
Cc: Singer, Joshua <Singer.Joshua@epa.gov>
Subject: Expedited FOIA request from Chicago Tribune for Section 114 test summaries

Michael Hawthorne
Reporter
Chicago Tribune
435 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 222-3315
December 26, 2017
FOIA Officer
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5 (States: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Environmental Protection Agency, (MI-9)
Chicago, IL 60604-3590
(312) 886-6686
r5foia@epa.gov

FOIA REQUEST
Fee benefit requested
Fee waiver requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of any and all summaries of results of air quality testing required under Section 114 of the Clean Air Act for facilities in the attached spreadsheet, which was previously provided to me by USEPA.

I would like to receive the information in electronic format, either PDF, CSV or Excel.

I agree to pay reasonable duplication fees for the processing of this request in an amount not to exceed \$100. However, please notify me prior to your incurring any expenses in excess of that amount.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through

this request, I am gathering information on air quality testing at regulated facilities in EPA Region 5 that is of current interest to the public because air quality is of paramount importance and EPA policies on Section 114 requests appear to be changing. This information is being sought on behalf of Chicago Tribune for dissemination to the general public.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. This information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities, in particular EPA's use of Section 114 requests to obtain detailed snapshots of air quality at regulated facilities.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

I would appreciate your communicating with me by email or telephone, rather than by mail.

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a journalist, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the results of air quality tests required under Section 114 because informed members of the public would be able to contact public officials to ensure EPA is fulfilling its mission of protecting public health. Any delay in providing this information would rob the public of its ability to make known its views in a timely manner. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your determination regarding my request for expedited processing within 10 calendar days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael Hawthorne (sent via email)

(See attached file: List of 114 requests for followup with Region 5.xlsx)